



STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE
Mayor
250 City Hall, 100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

April 26, 2012

Mr. Michael J. Ward,
Chairman, President, and CEO
CSX Transportation
500 Water Street, 15th Floor
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Dear Mr. Ward:

I am writing to urge CSX Transportation to consider locating its proposed Baltimore-Washington Rail Intermodal Facility in the City of Baltimore. For more than a year, CSX has worked with the State of Maryland to study four proposed sites for the facility along the I-95 corridor, including Elkridge. It's clear that this process has stalled—threatening one of Baltimore's strongest pillars of economic growth and job creation. As the Washington Post recently reported, "Without that quick fix, the city could suffer a devastating blow to one of the few vibrant engines that keep its economy afloat."

This is unacceptable. As a strong advocate for the Port of Baltimore, I'm deeply troubled by the slow pace of this project and the ongoing resistance to the idea of strengthening our critical port infrastructure. With the widening of the Panama Canal nearing completion, we need to develop the necessary transportation infrastructure to ensure that more cargo can be efficiently transported to and from the port in a way that makes economic sense for shippers and keeps Baltimore relevant in the 21st-century global economy.

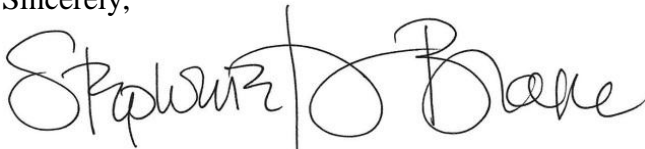
Specifically, we need to develop the capacity to handle trains with double-stacked containers—a huge step toward ensuring that the Baltimore region will move forward as a hub for rail cargo transportation. In the near term, the best way to do that is to work quickly to identify an appropriate site for the Intermodal Facility in Baltimore City and begin planning, design, and construction. This multi-million dollar investment will create jobs for Baltimore's residents and secure the Port of Baltimore's future. It's easy to see a

scenario where CSX could work with the Mayor's Office of Employment Development to help identify, recruit, and train city residents for these future job opportunities.

This week, the Port of Baltimore reported the largest increase in Cargo volume of any Major U.S. port. The Brookings Institution is releasing a Baltimore Metropolitan Economy report outlining the need to invest in critical infrastructure, thereby strengthening our export economy. Moving forward with an intermodal facility now, in a way that makes sense for our state, our port, and the private sector, is critical to keeping this economic engine humming. Preparing the Port of Baltimore and our region for the expansion of the Panama Canal is a critical opportunity that cannot afford any further delay. If we fail to take swift action, economic opportunity will pass us by.

Toward that end, I am urging CSX Transportation to work closely and immediately with the Maryland Department of Transportation and the City to identify an appropriate site for the new Intermodal Facility in the City of Baltimore. Thank you for your consideration of this important request. Let's make it happen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Stephanie Rawlings-Blake". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stephanie" and last name "Blake" clearly legible.

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake

Mayor

Baltimore City